

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-08 TRSE-00 SS-15 NSC-05
CPR-01 /040 W

-----078784 110654Z /21/50

R 061347Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7530
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (ADDING MANAMA FOR INFO)

DEPT ALSO PASS NEA/ARN FOR AMBASSADOR MURPHY

E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS: BTRA, BBSR, PEPR, SY, US
SUBJ: CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE VISIT: DAMASCUS PERSPECTIVE

REF: STATE 086840

1. SYRIAN DELEGATION IS AS REPORTED REFSL WITH FOLLOWING
EXCEPTIONS: MAMDOUH ABU HINDA AND MAUNIR ZAKARIYEH ARE
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NOT RPT NOT GOING. ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF DELEGATION
ARE RASHAD SHALLAH, AMIN DAKKAK, MOHAMMAD KAZZAZ, MINHAL
ABASS, AND ADEL RADWAN. SEVENTEEN WILL BE ACCOMPANIED
BY WIVES AND TEN WILL BE UNACCOMPANINED.

2. LOCAL CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY TELL US
SAUDIS CONTINUE TO BE ON AGAIN, OFF AGAIN, AND AT

PRESENT ARE OFF. SYRIANS ARE URGING SADDI PARTICIPATION BUT ARE AFRAID SAUDIS, WHOSE IDEA THIS WAS IN THE FIRST PLACE, FOR THEIR OWN POLITICAL REASONS HAVE CHANGED THEIR MINDS. EVERY MEMBER OF SYRIAN DELEGATION (WITH EXCEPTION MINECON IMADI) HAS PRIVATE BUSINESS TO CONDUCT IN THE US AND KEEPING THIS GROUP TOGETHER SHOULD BE LOGISTICS NIGHTMARE.

3. PROTOCOL NOTE: SENIOR MEMBERS OF DELEGATION ARE MINECON IMADI, PRESIDENT OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BADDREDDINE SHALLAH, AND PRESIDENT OF CHAMBER OF INDUSTRY CHAFFIC SOUCCAR. REAL POWER OF DELEGATION, OF COUSE, IS THE MINISTER, BUT OTHER TWO ARE VERY SENSITIVE ABOUT THEIR STATUS AND ALL THREE SHOULD BE REGARDED AS CO-CHAIRMAN. IN ADDITION, MAHAYNI AND SAFADI ARE MEMBERS OF PEOPLE'S COUNCIL AND MAHAYANI HELPED WELCOME CODEL ZABLOCKI DURING CODEL'S VISIT LAST JANUARY. IMADI IS ALSO MEMBER OF PEOPLE'S COUNCIL.

4. DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE AWARE SYRIAN DELEGATION UNDERSTANDS GROUPE WILL BE RECEIVED BY PRESIDEN CARTER AND WILL BE COMING WITH ANUMBER OF GIFTS. WHETHER OR NOT PRESIDENT CARTER RECEIVES GROUP OR AT LEAST ITS LEADERS, AND IT WOULD HAVE A VERY FAVORABLE IMPACT HERE IF HE WERE ABLE TO, WE RECOMMEND THAT SYRIANS IN THIS GROUP RECEIVE FULL MEASURE OF HIGH LEVEL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ATTENTION. MANY OF THEM ARE INFLUENTIAL IN DAMASCUS AND THEIR IMPRESSIONS OF THIS VISIT WILL BE WIDELY SHARED ON THEIR RETURN. PELLETREAU

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Message Attributes

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